

# FILEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## Medical Officer of Health—Annual Report.

Year ended 31st December, 1937.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

Population as per Registrar General's Estimate 4,307.

#### Births.

52 births were registered in 1937, namely 27 boys and 25 girls. Of these, 2 boys and 1 girl were illegitimate. There were two still births. This gives a birth rate of 12.07 per thousand.

#### Deaths.

55 deaths were registered in 1937, namely 32 males and 23 females. This gives a death rate of 12.7 per thousand.

The causes of death were as follows:—

Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	19
Malignant Disease	....	....	....	....	6
Consumption	....	....	....	....	2
Influenza	....	....	....	....	1
Appendicitis	....	....	....	....	1
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	3
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	1
Circulatory Disease	....	....	....	....	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	....	....	....	....	3
Diabetes	....	....	....	....	3
Violence (accident in launching cobble)	....	....	....	....	1
Prematurity	....	....	....	....	2
Kidney Disease	....	....	....	....	1
Liver and Digestion Disease	....	....	....	....	2
Other Conditions	....	....	....	....	8

#### Infectious Disease.

There has been no specially widespread epidemic of infectious disease in 1937.

26 cases of disease have been notified to me, namely:—

Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	13
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	....	....	....	....	1
Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....	2
Chicken Pox	....	....	....	....	....	2
Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	....	....	1

The two cases of Diphtheria occurred on the same day, but were widely separated in distance and were quite unrelated. All contacts were immunised and no further cases resulted.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### (a) Laboratory Facilities.

Facilities for bacteriological and serological tests and pathological examinations of all kinds are provided by the North Riding Laboratory at Scarborough.

#### (b) Ambulance.

During 1937, arrangements were made with the Scarborough Corporation whereby their Ambulance is now available for all cases of accident or urgent illness. There is no change in the arrangements for the provision of ambulances for the removal of infectious diseases to Hospital.

#### (c) Home Nursing.

During the early months of 1937 a Nursing Association was formed and a Queen's Nurse Midwife was appointed. She is available for all kinds of home nursing except of infectious cases, and also fully qualified for attending confinements with or without a doctor.

The Association has so far been very successful, and has been fortunate in their choice of Nurse Barnes who carries out her duties excellently.

#### (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There has been no change in these during 1937.

#### (e) Hospitals.

These remain the same as in 1936.



## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

### **1. (a) Water Supply.**

The water supply remained abundant and excellent during the year. Frequent analysis indicated exceptional purity and freedom from bacterial contamination.

### **(b) Drainage and Sewerage.**

During 1937 I have again urged upon the Council the most urgent necessity of immediately adopting a complete sewerage and drainage scheme for the whole of the area under its control. The urgent necessity of this measure cannot be too strongly emphasised.

### **2. Rivers and Streams.**

No action has been taken during 1937 to stop the pollution of the two streams in Filey, one of which runs down the Ravine and the other down Primrose Valley. A sewage scheme is the only possible way of dealing with this pollution.

### **3. Smoke Abatement.**

No action has been taken during 1937 with regard to smoke abatement. The chimney of the Filey Laundry produces a very large volume of black smoke, dense enough I think, to become a nuisance at times.

### **4. Schools.**

The Sanitary condition and water supply of schools are satisfactory. The yard of the Church School is never re-tarred, year by year, and is now in a disgraceful condition, in the most urgent need of renewal.

It was found necessary during the first quarter of the year to close all the schools for a period of one month owing to a widespread epidemic of influenza amongst the scholars.

### **5. Camping.**

Although camping conditions in the Filey Area have improved somewhat in the last few years, there are still two major causes for complaint.

The first one is the serious pollution of the Primrose Valley Stream to which I referred in detail in my Report of September 30th, 1937. This can only be remedied by the adoption of a comprehensive sewage scheme.

The second cause for complaint is to be found on the West Avenue Camping Ground. The number and size of structures which find their way into this field is rapidly increasing, and although there are provided 6 water closets, there is no provision at all for the removal of slops and washing up water.

I contend once more that here is a serious sanitary nuisance and one which should be stopped forthwith.

I would indicate once more to the Council that the development of such an eyesore could have been prevented by the adoption of a Town Planning Scheme, and would take this opportunity of reaffirming that the necessity for such a scheme becomes yearly more apparent.

## **HOUSING.**

During 1937, 82 houses have been built and the families vacating the houses condemned in 1936 have moved into the new ones.

No new demolition scheme was undertaken during the year.

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

### **Milkshops and Dairies.**

These have been inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and myself and found to be clean and satisfactory.

### **Cowsheds.**

The Cowsheds have been inspected and I have nothing further to add to my previous remarks on these premises.

### **Slaughterhouses.**

The Slaughterhouses have been inspected during 1937 and the standard of cleanliness found moderately good. The premises are without exception, derelict, badly situated, and grossly unsuitable to the purpose for which they are intended.

### **Bakehouses.**

The Bakehouses maintain a very good standard of cleanliness.

### **Factory Act.**

The workshops and the Laundry have been inspected and found to be clean and well ventilated. I have observed no case of any industrial disease.

## **FACILITIES FOR REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.**

From April 1st, 1937, it has become entirely impossible to register births or deaths in Filey except for two hourly periods each month. This means that virtually every person wishing to register a death must make the 24 mile journey to Bridlington and back. There has been much protest on the part of the Filey residents, and I think justly so.

I am of the opinion that it should be possible to register deaths in Filey at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD WALLIS VINCENT.

